Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 6, 14, 23 and 25. Please add new Claim 27. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Currently amended) A method for attaching a biological molecule to a glass surface comprising the steps of:

a) providing a silane-treated glass surface having an end-capped amino group;

b) reacting said end-capped amino group with a phosgene equivalent to form a protected isocyanate group; and

c) reacting said protected isocyanate group with ~~an amino group of~~ a biological molecule,

thereby forming a covalent coupling and attaching said biological molecule to the glass surface.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising reacting a glass surface with an aminosilane thereby forming the silane-treated glass surface having an end-capped amino group.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the phosgene equivalent is a carbonyl diimidazole or a ketoxime carbonate.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 3 wherein the carbonyl diimidazole is 1,1-carbonyldiimidazole.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 3 wherein the ketoxime carbonate is methyl ethyl ketoxime carbonate.

6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the biological molecule is selected from the group consisting of proteins, peptides, nucleic ~~acid sequences~~ acids and carbohydrates.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the glass surface is a microscope slide surface.

8. (Withdrawn) A method for attaching a biological molecule to a glass surface comprising the steps of:

a) providing a silane-treated glass surface having an end-capped isocyanate group;

b) reacting said isocyanate group with a blocking reagent thereby forming a protected isocyanate group;

c) reacting said protected isocyanate group with an amino group of a biological molecule,

thereby forming a covalent coupling and attaching said biological molecule to the glass surface.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 further comprising reacting a glass surface with a silane compound having an isocyanate group, thereby forming the silane-treated glass surface having an end-capped isocyanate group.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 wherein the blocking reagent is an oxime.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 10 wherein the blocking reagent is methyl ethyl ketoxime.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 wherein the biological molecule is selected from the group consisting of proteins, peptides, nucleic acid sequences and carbohydrates.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 wherein the glass surface is a microscope slide surface.

14. (Currently amended) A method for attaching a biological molecule to a glass surface comprising the steps of:

a) providing a silane-treated glass surface having an end-capped amino group;

b) reacting said amino group with a phosgene equivalent to form an end-capped group, said end-capped group including a functional group represented by the following structural formula:

>N-C(O)-N<

or by the following structural formula:

>N-C(O)-O-N< ;

and

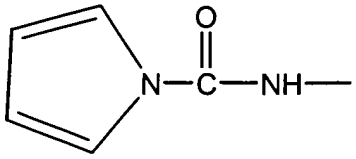
c) reacting said end-capped group with ~~an amino group of~~ a biological molecule, thereby forming a covalent coupling and attaching said biological molecule to the glass surface.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 14 wherein the phosgene equivalent is a carbonyl diimidazole or a ketoxime carbonate.

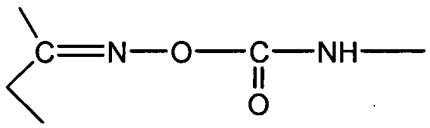
16. (Original) The method of Claim 15 wherein the carbonyl diimidazole is 1,1-carbonyldiimidazole.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 15 wherein the ketoxime carbonate is methyl ethyl ketoxime carbonate.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 14 wherein said end-capped group is represented by the following structural formula:



19. (Original) The method of Claim 14 wherein said end-capped group is represented by the following structural formula:



20. (Withdrawn) A method for storing a microscope slide, suitable for covalently attaching a molecule to a surface of said microscope slide, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a silane-treated microscope slide surface having an end-capped isocyanate group; and

b) reacting said isocyanate group with a blocking reagent thereby forming a protected isocyanate group.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 20 wherein the blocking reagent is an oxime.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 21 wherein the blocking reagent is methyl ethyl ketoxime.

23. (Currently amended) A method for attaching a biological molecule to a silane-treated glass surface comprising the steps of:

a) reacting an end-capped amino group on said silane-treated glass surface with a phosgene equivalent to form a protected isocyanate group; and

b) reacting said protected isocyanate group with ~~an amino group of~~ a biological molecule,

thereby forming a covalent coupling and attaching said biological molecule to said silane-treated glass surface.

24. (Withdrawn) A method for attaching a biological molecule to a glass-treated surface comprising the steps of:

a) reacting an end capped isocyanate group on said silane-treated glass surface with a blocking reagent thereby forming a protected isocyanate group;

b) reacting said protected isocyanate group with an amino group of a biological molecule,

thereby forming a covalent coupling and attaching said biological molecule to said silane-treated glass surface.

25. (Currently amended) A method for attaching a biological molecule to a silane-treated glass surface comprising the steps of:

a) reacting an amino group on said silane-treated glass surface with a phosgene equivalent to form an end-capped group, said end-capped group including a functional group represented by the following structural formula:

>N-C(O)-N<

or by the following structural formula:

>N-C(O)-O-N< ;

and

b) reacting said end-capped group with ~~an amino group of~~ a biological molecule, thereby forming a covalent coupling and attaching said biological molecule to said silane-treated glass surface.

26. (Withdrawn) A method for storing a microscope slide, suitable for covalently attaching a molecule to a surface of said microscope slide, comprising reacting an isocyanate group on a silane-treated microscope slide surface with a blocking reagent, thereby forming a protected isocyanate group.

27. (New) The method of Claim 14 wherein the glass surface is a microscope slide surface.